

April 23, 2020

So, being purged of vanity, and now fully understanding that as a Christian, I can't continue to harbor vanity anymore, because it's a sin -- what now?

As in, how am I supposed to look, now that I'm 50?

Ok. I am going to explore my thoughts on this, but I can't guarantee I'll make any sense, because I have absolutely no clue on this topic, other than the fact that vanity is a sin. And I'm no seasoned, Godly woman on the matter, not yet. Other things, maybe, yes. But not this subject. Bear with me.

So.... how are middle aged Christian women who refuse to walk in vanity anymore supposed to look? As in, how to dress?

All I know is, I repented of vanity, and will not let it back in. I was helped tremendously by the past 5 years in a wheelchair, dumpy and unkempt, plump and exhausted. My figure disappeared and my once strong body turned to mush. During this time of weakness, I learned so much. I learned that the way I've been dressing, pretty much my whole adult life, was not pleasing to God. And I didn't even dress slutty! I've always been casual, wearing little to no makeup, jeans pretty much always. But... I had no idea Christian women should not be letting certain things show. Even if a shirt isn't low cut, it might be tight. And even if the jeans are old and tattered, they too might be too tight, and show too much figure. It's not just about not showing too much skin - it's also about not wearing form fitting things. I never even thought twice about my casual way of dressing, until my huge "time out" in the wheelchair. I never realized that letting my figure show was causing guys to sin. I mean, as a woman, I was just used to guys looking, as pretty much every female is. But I never realized that as a Christian, I should consider the guys, and not be a stumbling block to

them. That means wearing clothing that isn't form fitting, in addition to obviously not showing too much skin. That's the only change I personally have had to make. (I stopped wearing heels and short skirts, etc. a long time ago.) So, during the past 5 or so years, being all broken down in a wheelchair, wearing my husband's huge t shirts, not being comfortable in anything else, I discovered, ...this is how I should be dressing. Not necessarily in old ratty t shirts, but in loose clothing.

Which brings me to my question...

Since I'm gaining strength again, and up walking, and will most likely want to rejoin the outside world soon, what on earth do I buy to wear? I can't spend the rest of my life in my husband's old huge t shirts, can I?

What do I do?

Buy mumus?

Potato sacks?

Or... not worry about it, and just keep staying home?

Because I am not getting all into that "modesty movement" stuff. I avoid anything to do with any sort of "movement" within the Christian faith. But that's a whole other writing bit.

I already went through my confusion with, and solved the problem of, my hair. I'm not going to use any more hair color on it, and I'm letting the new silver come out. I've already decided to let it do

whatever God designed it to do, at this point in my life. I'm only trimming the deadends off as needed, but no longer styling it at all, not even cutting layers around my face.

Because vanity.

Makeup is a no-brainer. I've never liked it and don't miss it. I don't even own one piece of it.

I don't wear jewelry, even though I know I should probably be wearing my wedding band. I just don't like things attached to my body. He doesn't mind.

So, my only quandry, as a woman recently freed from vanity, is how on earth do I dress now. I might just abandon this question altogether, and continue to wear loose t shirts and pj pants cut into long shorts. So basically, I look like a bum. But I feel great!

And even though I'm older now, with a busted up figure, and nobody would want to look anyway, I feel good about no longer being a stumbling block to men, and I am sorry (and have repented of) being like that in the past, even unintentionally.

Men have enough to deal with on this earth, and I don't ever want to be a problem to them, ever again.

I know that the sin of vanity is more than appearances and the clothes we wear, but this is just about that part of it. I'll do another thing eventually on the other stuff I've learned about vanity (being self-centered and seeking attention, etc). I guess the conclusion that I've come to is, I might go into old age looking like a ragamuffin hobo. And I'm secretly very ok with that.

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